

APPROVED

**at a meeting of the Academic Council of
NJSC «KazNU named after al-Farabi»
Protocol № 11 from 23. 05. 2025 y.**

The programme of the entrance exam for applicants to the PhD for the group of educational programs D142 – «Social work»

I. General provisions

1. The programme was drawn up in accordance with Order No. 600 of the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan, dated 31 October 2018, 'On approval of the model rules for admission to education in educational organisations implementing educational programmes of higher and postgraduate education' (hereinafter referred to as the “Model Rules”).

2. The entrance examination for doctoral studies consists of writing an essay, sitting an exam in the subject area of the educational programme, and attending an interview.

Блок	Баллы
1. Interview	30
2. Essay	20
3. Exam according to the profile of the group of the educational program	50
Total admission score	100/75

3. The duration of the entrance exam is 3 hours 10 minutes, during which the applicant writes an essay and answers the electronic examination ticket. The interview is conducted at the university premises before the entrance exam.

II. Procedure for the entrance examination

Applicants to the doctoral programme in the educational programme group D061 “Sociology” must write a problem-based or thematic essay. The essay should be between **250 words** in length.

The purpose of the essay is to assess applicants' analytical and creative abilities, demonstrated through their capacity to construct a coherent argument based on theoretical knowledge as well as personal and social experience.

Types of essays include:

- A motivational essay revealing the applicant's motivation for engaging in research activities;
- A scientific and analytical essay justifying the relevance and methodology of the proposed research;

- A problem-based or thematic essay reflecting various aspects of scientific knowledge in the field of sociology.

2. The electronic exam form includes three questions.

Topics for Preparation for the Profile Examination of the Educational Programme Group:

Discipline “**THEORY OF SOCIAL WORK**”

TOPIC 1: The methodological foundations of social work theory

The philosophical foundations of social work. Sociological paradigms and their influence on the development of social work theory concepts. Psychologically oriented theoretical models in social work. Pedagogical foundations of social work.

TOPIC 2: Methodological problems of social work theory as a branch of scientific knowledge.

Social work in the system of scientific knowledge. Contemporary approaches to defining the subject and object of social work theory. The conceptual and categorical apparatus of social work theory. The principles, patterns, functions and methods of social work theory. Contemporary paradigms, theories and models of social work.

TOPIC 3. Theoretical justification of social work practice

The social space of social work practice. Social work in the context of social policy. The theoretical and practical foundations of social work with clients. The theoretical and practical foundations of social work in different spheres of life. Main methods of practical social work. The professional profile of a social worker.

TOPIC 4. The evolution of social work theory and practice in the 21st century.

Problematic areas of social work. Social work as a tool for preserving and developing human capital. The dynamics of scientific knowledge in social work in the context of globalisation processes. Problems and guidelines for developing social work theory in the 21st century.

Discipline “**METHODS AND TECHNOLOGIES OF SOCIAL WORK**”.

TOPIC 1. Methodological and Theoretical Problems of Social Work Technology

Domestic and foreign approaches to social work technology. Methodological problems of interventions in social work technology. Theoretical problems when implementing interventions at the initial contact stage with clients. Assessment methods in social work technology. Main problems of planning in social work technology. Interventions in social work technology.

TOPIC 2. General social work technologies

Individual social work technology. Social work technology with groups. Social work technologies in the microsocial environment. Counselling technologies in social work. Supervision in social work.

TOPIC 3. Social work technologies in various spheres of social life.

The role of social work specialists in the legal system. The role of social work specialists in education. The role of social workers in healthcare institutions. The role of social workers in providing specialised medical care.

TOPIC 4. Interdisciplinary technologies and methods of social work

Organisational and managerial methods of social work. Psychological methods of social work. Pedagogical methods of social work. Socio-economic methods of social work.

Discipline “ORGANISATION AND PLANNING OF RESEARCH IN SOCIAL WORK”

TOPIC 1. Science and social development

Features of scientific knowledge (criteria of scientificity). Science as a system of knowledge. The nature of scientific knowledge. The diversity of forms of scientific knowledge. Scientific and non-scientific forms of knowledge. The problem of classifying sciences throughout the history of knowledge. The main functions of science.

TOPIC 2. Methodology of science

The methodology and methods of the social sciences and humanities. The specific features of social cognition according to W. Dilthey, H.-G. Gadamer, M. Weber, W. Windelband, G. Rickert and others. Features of modern social cognition. The concepts of “method” and “methodology”. Classification of methods. General scientific methods of empirical and theoretical cognition. Methods of empirical cognition: description, comparison, observation, measurement, experimentation, analysis and induction. Methods of theoretical cognition include formalisation, axiomatic and hypothetical-deductive methods, abstraction, idealisation, synthesis, deduction and ascension from the abstract to the concrete, as well as coincidences of the logical and historical. General logical methods: analysis, synthesis, induction, deduction and analogy. Methods of understanding and explanation. The hermeneutic circle.

TOPIC 3. Scientific research

The stages of scientific research. Choosing a direction for scientific research. The ethics of scientific research. Scientific information: searching for, accumulating and processing it. Analysis of theoretical and experimental research, and formulation of conclusions. General requirements for research work. Planning scientific research. The structure of scientific research work. Writing and formatting a scientific article. Characteristics of a scientific dissertation resulting from theoretical, methodological and applied research.

Discipline “CURRENT ISSUES IN THE THEORY AND METHODOLOGY OF SOCIAL WORK”.

TOPIC 1. The social construction of social work theories

Social work as part of the scientific knowledge system. Theoretical and methodological aspects of social work with people. Features of social work practice and its scientific prospects.

TOPIC 2. Current issues in social work theory

Social work as a process of solving client problems. Theoretical approaches to the client's personality. The problem of selecting an assistance method in social work theory. Problems in the development of social work theory and practice in Kazakhstan.

TOPIC 3. Classification of contemporary social work theories

Main contemporary social work theories. Principles of humanism in social work. The future of social work theories.

3. List of References

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Supplementary Literature:

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